

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add claim 17 in accordance with the following:

1. –12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) An e-mail client apparatus for transmitting and receiving e-mail messages, comprising:

a sorting unit which sorts e-mail messages into a hierarchical structure according to sender addresses each comprising a plurality of labels representing different levels of domain names, referring first to the label representing a top-level domain; and

a list displaying unit which displays a list comprising indicia of the labels of the sender addresses arranged in tree form, together with titles of the e-mail messages corresponding to the sender addresses.

14. (Previously Presented) The e-mail client apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said list displaying unit places the label representing the top-level domain as a root node of the tree form and then attaches thereto the other labels representing successively lower levels as branch nodes.

15. (Previously Presented) A method for displaying e-mail messages, comprising:
sorting e-mail messages into a hierarchical structure according to sender addresses each comprising a plurality of labels representing different levels of domain names, referring first to the label representing a top-level domain; and

displaying a list comprising indicia of the labels of the sender addresses arranged in tree form, together with titles of the e-mail messages corresponding to the sender addresses.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium storing an e-mail client program for displaying e-mail messages, the e-mail client program causing a computer to function as:

a sorting unit which sorts e-mail messages into a hierarchical structure according to sender addresses each comprising a plurality of labels representing different levels of domain names, referring first to the label representing a top-level domain; and

a list displaying unit which displays a list comprising indicia of the labels of the sender addresses arranged in tree form, together with titles of the e-mail messages corresponding to

the sender addresses.

17. (New) A computer-readable storage medium storing an e-mail client program for displaying e-mail messages, the e-mail client program causing a computer to function as:

a sorting unit which sorts e-mail messages into a hierarchical structure according to a user selectable parent-child attribute and the sender address, each comprising a plurality of labels representing different levels of domain names, referring first to the label representing a top-level domain; and

a list displaying unit which displays a list comprising indicia of the labels of the sender addresses arranged in tree form, together with titles of the e-mail messages corresponding to the sender addresses.